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Dated: 7-18-05

Signature: *Rhea Amid*

(Rhea Amid)

Patent

Docket No. 559552000120

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Tae-ahn JAHNG

Serial No.: 10/798,014

Filing Date: March 10, 2004

For: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
FLEXIBLE FIXATION OF A SPINE

Examiner: D. Davis

Group Art Unit: 3731

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicant submits for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b. Copies of the documents were previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement and/or Office Action, directed to the related application Serial Number 10/728,566, filed December 5, 2003, and, accordingly, copies are not included herewith. This protocol conforms with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) and M.P.E.P. 609(A)(2). The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record in the application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ With the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114. However, if applicable, a certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)(1) has been provided.
- ☒ Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required. However, if applicable, a certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)(1) has been provided.
- ☐ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
  - ☐ A fee is required. A check in the amount of \_\_\_ is enclosed.
  - ☐ A fee is required. Accordingly, a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) is attached to this submission in duplicate.
  - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above; accordingly; no fee is believed to be due.
- ☐ After mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.
  - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above and a check in the amount of \_\_\_ is enclosed.
  - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above and a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17 is attached to this submission in duplicate.)

Applicant would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO/SB/08a/b, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist;

(iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling;  
or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petition and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 559552000120.

Dated: July 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By Richard C. Kim

Richard C. Kim

Registration No.: 40,046

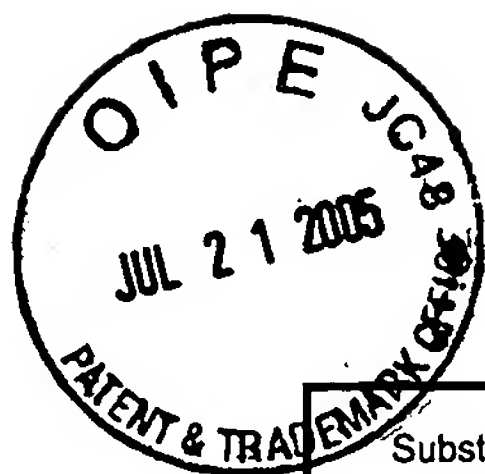
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| <b>Substitute for form 1449/PTO</b><br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                |
|   |   |    |   | Application Number       | 10/798,014     |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | March 10, 2004 |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Tae-ahn JAHNG  |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | 3731           |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | D. Davis       |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 2 | Attorney Docket Number   | 559552000120   |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                          | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
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|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

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|  |   |    |   | Application Number       | 10/798,014     |
|  |   |    |   | Filing Date              | March 10, 2004 |
|  |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Tae-ahn JAHNG  |
|  |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | 3731           |
|  |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | D. Davis       |
| Sheet  | 2 | of | 2 | Attorney Docket Number   | 559552000120   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                                   |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication<br>Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                   |  |   |                |
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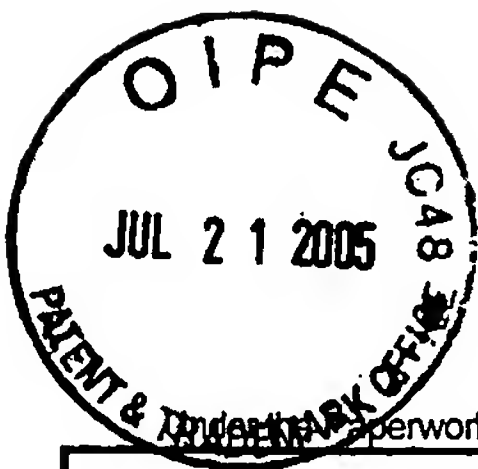
\*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                |
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| Examiner<br>Initials*           | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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|---|---|------------------------|----------------|
| <b>TRANSMITTAL<br/>FORM</b><br><br>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) |   | Application Number     | 10/798,014     |
|   |   | Filing Date            | March 10, 2004 |
|   |   | First Named Inventor   | Tae-ahn JAHNG  |
|   |   | Art Unit               | 3731           |
|   |   | Examiner Name          | D. Davis       |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission  | 6 | Attorney Docket Number | 559552000120   |

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**

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**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

|              |                         |          |        |
|--------------|-------------------------|----------|--------|
| Firm Name    | MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP |          |        |
| Signature    |                         |          |        |
| Printed name | Richard C. Kim          |          |        |
| Date         | July 15, 2005           | Reg. No. | 40,046 |

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